

# EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

# FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE ABIDJAN BUREAU

MAB-6017 3 September 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Di

Director, FBIS

THRU

Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT

Monthly Report--Abidjan Bureau--August 1986

#### I. GENERAL

- 1. On 11 August Togolese Interior Minister Kpotivi Lacle announced that nine Togolese nationals had been arrested on 23 July. They reportedly had planned to place explosives at the U.S. Embassy and the main market in Lome. According to the minister, the terrorist plan also included destabilization of "several West and Central African states." There was widespread speculation in the West African media that American interests in the Ivory Coast were among the targets. One of the terrorists was reported as saying that the explosives in their possession at the time of arrest had been supplied by "a member of the Libyan Embassy" in Cotonou, Benin.
- 2. Work on an Embassy FSN wage survey has resumed with the return to post of the personnel officer assigned to finalize the survey. The officer expects that it will take 3-4 months to complete data collection.
- 3. As a result of the declining dollar, the Abidjan post cost of living allowance (COLA) was increased this month from class 35 to 42.

#### II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres visited Cameroon on 25 and 26 August during which time the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries was announced. The visit followed the announcement 2 days earlier of a major natural disaster in northwest Cameroon in which a gas leak caused by volcanic activity killed approximately 1700 people. Numerous reports were filed for the BBC Newsburo on the disaster and subsequent international relief efforts.

## B. Communications

The Bureau experienced extended communications outages over the last half of the month as TCU grappled with a persistent equipment problem in the satellite interface. On several occasions the Bureau was forced to hand-carry punched tapes to the Embassy for relay through CPU's facility, and to use Telex for priority items.

### C. Technical

- 1. After unsuccessful local attempts to fully diagnose what we suspect is a damaged hard disk, the bureau's IBM-XT and hard disk were returned to headquarters for diagnosis and repair on 25 August.
- 2. The Bureau has recently experienced a problem resulting from unanticipated switching of signal polarity on the AFP landline. The engineering staff has modified the incoming line to permit the editorial staff to adjust the polarity as needed.

#### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

assumed duties as the Bureau's part-	STAT
who departed post on 24 July.	STAT
2. Part-time French translator submitted her resignation, effective 10 October. She has accepted an editorial	STAT
assistant position with the World Bank in Abidjan. We are now in the process of testing applicants for position as well as for a full-time monitorial vacancy which will occur with the retirement in	STAT
December of Chief Monitor	STAT
IV. POST ACTIVITIES	
The Bureau chief participated in a country briefing for General Richard L. Lawson, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. European Command (USEUCOM), and his 10-member party who visited Abidjan 13-14 August.	
	STAT
Chief, Abidjan Bureau	

Attachment:

Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Swaziland Bureau Deputy Chief, London Bureau

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Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2012/04/03: CIA-RDP87-01104R000100010005-6
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               Abidjan Bureau Production Report for August 1986
         TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:
   I.
   TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:
                                                                             209330
   TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:
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   TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:
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